

GLM/BCF 6/15/05 395911.doc 117045.4
PATENTAttorney Reference Number 3382-51792-01
Application Number 09/383,038Remarks

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 13-46 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 13-45 have been allowed. Claims 1, 8, 13, 19, 21, 32, 41, 45 and 46 are independent. The Examiner had earlier indicated that claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 13-45 are allowed.

§ 101 Concerns

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's efforts in following up regarding possible § 101 concerns with claims 8, 13, and 21. Applicants include herewith amendments that are directed to clarifying the claims to avoid a possible objection that the claims are directed to an abstract idea. As discussed, these claims are not intended to narrow the claims' scope.

Amendments Properly Entered

The amendments herein do not present new issues or require a new search and can thus be properly entered after final rejection.

Applied Art

U.S. Patent No. 6,192,118 to Bayless et al. ("Bayless") is entitled "Computer Telephone System and Method Having a Graphical User Interface." U.S. Patent No. 6,711,645 to Chari et al. ("Chari") is entitled "System for Facilitating the Replacement or Insertion of Devices in a Computer System Through the Use of a Graphical User Interface."

Patentability of Claim 46 under § 103(a)

The Action rejects claim 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bayless in view of Chari. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and submit that the claim 46 in its present form is allowable over the applied art.

To expedite prosecution, Applicants have chosen to add language similar to language appearing in allowed claim 32 to independent claim 46. Taken together, the Bayless and Chari references do not show the claimed arrangement of amended claim 46, which recites in part, "wherein at least one of the one or more methods for customizing the customizable area is for adding one or more custom panes to

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the visual user interface for the telephony device, the one or more panes associated with a parent application separate from a shell program implementing default elements of the visual user interface." The Action cites several passages of Bayless and Chari, but the cited passages do not teach or suggest the claimed arrangement.

Amended claim 46 is allowable over Bayless and Chari, taken separately or in combination. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 46 be withdrawn.

Request for Follow-Up Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution. Applicants submit the foregoing formal Amendment so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicants' position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

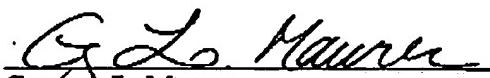
Conclusion

The claims in their present form should now be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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